



# *Town of Chatham*

*Office of the Selectmen*

*Town Manager*

*549 Main Street*

*Chatham, MA 02633*



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## **NEWS RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - March 24, 2020

### **Media Contact:**

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### **CHATHAM TOWN OPERATIONS UNDER GOVERNOR'S ORDER OF MARCH 23, 2020**

In response to Governor Baker's Order of March 23, 2020 assuring continued operation of essential services in the Commonwealth, closing certain workplaces from March 24, 2020 through April 7, 2020, and prohibiting gatherings of more than 10 people during the COVID-19 public health emergency, Town Manager Jill Goldsmith has halted all but critical municipal services.

The Police and Fire/Rescue Departments will maintain operations with some modifications. Access to the Police Department's lobby remains restricted to those individuals who need immediate emergency protection or assistance. The State Fire Marshall has temporarily suspended all resale inspections. A State waiver required to be signed by the buyer and seller is available from the Fire Department.

The Health Division's vital response to the public health emergency will continue unabated.

The Department of Public Works will maintain operations of Town-owned roadways; Water, Sewer and Drainage systems; municipal facilities; maintenance of public parks and fields; and the Transfer Station remains open.

Harbormaster operations will continue as needed. The Shellfish Constable and Deputy Constable will continue patrols and maintain the Town's upweller. The deadline to renew existing commercial shellfish licenses has been extended to June 30, 2020. Construction on the Trap Dock Municipal Fish Pier Observation Deck, and the planned dredging of Stage Harbor Entrance Channel will take place.

The Town Clerk's office will make arrangements to accept election related materials and process vital records via email to [jsmith@chatham-ma.gov](mailto:jsmith@chatham-ma.gov) .

Emergency and critical electrical, plumbing, gas and building inspections will performed. All other inspections will be handled on a case by case basis as determined by the Building Commissioner. All inquiries relating to inspections should be directed to [jbriggs@chatham-ma.gov](mailto:jbriggs@chatham-ma.gov).

The Treasurer/Tax Collector's office encourages the public utilize online payment options and submissions via US Mail. Cash payments may be arranged by contacting the Treasurer's office at 508-945-5018. Please do not mail cash.

Council on Aging staff is available as an information and referral resource via phone and can be reached at 508-945-5190. The Meals on Wheels program will continue to deliver to its clients,

The public restrooms located behind the Town Offices at 549 Main Street will remain open with regular cleaning throughout the day. All other municipal restrooms are closed to the public.

The closure of Town offices to the public, as ordered by Town Manager Goldsmith on March 17, 2020, will be extended to noon April 7, 2020 to coincide with the timing of the Governor's Order.

Town officials continue to urge everyone to take the recommended steps of social distancing, limiting exposure to others, frequent handwashing, and proper respiratory etiquette seriously to limit the spread of the virus.

Any person who is experiencing symptoms such as a fever, and cough or difficulty breathing is encouraged to self-isolate and call your healthcare provider for medical advice. High risk individuals, including older adults, those with underlying medical conditions (heart or lung disease, high blood pressure, diabetes, weakened immune system, anyone who is pregnant), are urged to avoid others to the greatest extent possible.

Further information on COVID-19 and the Town's response is available at: <https://www.chatham-ma.gov/home/pages/covid-19-coronavirus-information>.

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